

**FIRST
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

President

Bryan Friedman

bryanfriedman@yahoo.com

641-792-3934

Vice-President

Eric Jordan

ec.jordan@mediacommbb.net

Secretary

Kay Hesse

ckhesse@me.com

(641) 521-8370

Treasurer

Corinne Coyle

corinnecoyle9@gmail.com

515-669-2983

Administrative Assistant

Nicole Vitales

office@newtonfirstlutheran.org

641-792-3934

Office Hours
Monday—Friday
8:30 am -
12:30 pm



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.



Page I

Why Christ calls us to worship

Easter services are usually well attended, but what about other weeks? What draws you to worship on an “average” Sunday, and what might Jesus have in store for people in the pews?

Consider this from Pastor Charles Aaron: “Did we come to church this morning thinking it was a safe thing to do? Did we come with some expectation of receiving a blessing, a bit of comfort, but no real challenge? Did we think about the

possibility that encountering Jesus would rearrange our lives, explode our priorities, cause us to give more than we ever expected? Did we think we could get a little something from Jesus, a dose of grace to help us through the week? Did we come for the fellowship, the music, the spiritual boost? No one can argue with those reasons.”

He continues: “The risen Christ, however, may have had other plans for this worship

service. Christ may want to come under our skins and transform us. Christ may see through us so that something we have well hidden comes to the surface. Christ may kick out from under us the things we use to prop ourselves up but that we don’t really need. Are we ready for that? Did we bargain on that when we walked through the door today?”

—from **The Wired Word**



Christian symbol

PASCHAL CANDLE—This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and/or an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people.

Also called the Easter candle, it plays a prominent role during Easter vigils and celebrations. Some churches also use the candle during baptisms and funerals.

Special dates

- Holy Week, April 10-17, 2022
- Palm/Passion Sunday, April 10, 2022
- Maundy Thursday, April 14, 2022
- Good Friday, April 15, 2022
- Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022
- Administrative Professionals Day, April 27, 2022

Support for Ukraine- Choices in Mission

The ELCA has been requesting Disaster Relief donations specific for Ukraine. Church Council has asked the Service Committee to sponsor a Choices in Mission for this effort. This will begin the Sunday after Easter, April 24, and continue through May. Council has voted to approve matching funds up to \$2,500.!

**STAND WITH
UKRAINE**



The Food Pantry would like us to emphasize a specific item each month. Remember, you may bring any item you wish, but spreading this among the contributing congregations keeps a steady supply of their most basic needs coming each month. For the months of April & May.

**Canned Potatoes , Tuna Helper,
& Cereal (Lg & Sm Boxes)**

have been requested.

Please take all donations directly to the Salvation army or you can place them in the Narthex.

Thank you for being so generous.

NHS Drama Presents-Murder at the Pie Auction Dinner Theater.

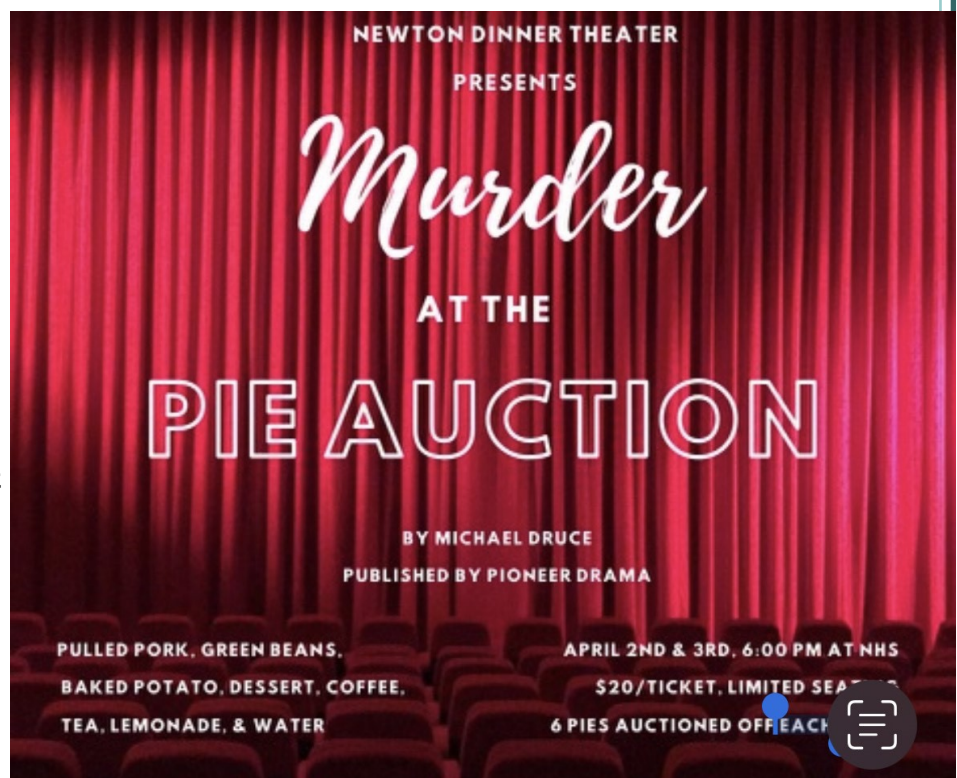
First Lutheran's very own Leo Friedman is one of the main actors in this dinner theater being performed at Newton High School on Sunday night April 3rd, 2022 and we wanted to let our church body know of how to get tickets in advance.

Seating is limited, so it might be a good idea to get them ASAP. If you would like to buy tickets but you are having trouble with the app, you can just contact Robyn Friedman and she will order for them and you can pay her back.

The tickets are \$20 and include a full meal in addition to the show. There will also be a pie auction at the end of the performance.

Please come out and support our NHS DRAMA.
All reservations/ticket purchases must be completed online through Bound. Seating is limited so get your tickets purchased right away.

[https://
ia.varsitybound.com/
schools/newton/tickets](https://ia.varsitybound.com/schools/newton/tickets)





Easter Lilies

We plan to decorate the Sanctuary with Easter Lilies and invite your help in providing lily plants.

If you would like to order a lily, please complete the form below, attach your check, fold together, and place it in the offering plate. You may also mail or bring your check and order form to the church office.

You may pay with cash or a check payable to Hy-Vee Floral in the amount \$8.50 for each lily ordered. The deadline for turning in order and payment is Monday, April 11th at noon.

Lilies may be taken home after the Easter Service.

Name _____

Phone _____

Lily(s) _____ \$8.50/each (Check payable to Hy-Vee Floral)

Given in honor of _____

Given in memory of _____

Martha Circle

Martha Circle recently met for the first time in over 2 years. The ladies all had so much fun getting together after so long. The woman of Martha Circle would like to invite you to come have bible study with them!

Martha meets every 3rd Wednesday of every month. If you have any questions please contact MaryAnn Iske, or Barb Birkenholtz



First Lutheran will again be participating in the Good Friday Cross Walk on April 15. The walk starts from St. Stephen's Episcopal at noon. First Lutheran will be the last stop. We can still use volunteers to read, lead singing, and help carry the cross. If you can help, please contact Corinne Coyle by April 5.

People Needed!

We are in need of people to step up and become the church. If we could have 1 or 2 more volunteers to help just once a month or even every other month this would be a huge help.

Things we are needing volunteers for:

Flowers... Please sign up for a Sunday if you have flowers to share for the worship service.

The sign up sheet is in the back of the church.

Slides... We are needing a few more people to help run slides on Sunday mornings. We have 3 people that are taking turns as of right now.

Lectors... We are needing 2 more people to step up and volunteer to read the lessons each week.



Connie Zimmermann

04/08

Stan Kirchhoff 04/09

Judith Monroe 04/09

Lexi Frehse 04/11

Dirk Amundsen 04/13

Carol Ve Verka 04/16

Emily Cantu 04/17

Lynette Birkenholz 04/19

Landon Karsten 04/20

Andrew George 04/27

Janelle Karsten 04/30

Jennifer Sumpter 04/30

Zinga News Update!

Dr. Bonaventura Mazezele ("Dr. Bon") reports from Zinga on a 45-year-old woman who had been struggling for two months with a wound that would not heal. The woman was poor, and decided to treat the injury at home using local herbs, but to no avail. The



wound spread, and then became infected. She ended up with a bad case of cellulitis, a bacterial infection of the inner layers of the skin. In the end, her neighbors decided to bring her to the clinic, where she was properly diagnosed and treated with intravenous antibiotics and daily dressing changes.

Two weeks later, the swelling has gone down, the wounds are healing, and she is showing great progress. She is also happy that her care was covered by IHP's Special Needs Fund established for indigent patients.



Why Friday is good?

To participate in the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ is to live already in his kingdom. This is the essence of the Christian message, the heart of the Good News, and it is why the cross has become the chief Christian symbol.

A cross of all things — a guillotine, a gallows — but the cross at the same time as the crossroads of eternity and time, as the place where such a mighty heart was broken that the healing power of God himself could flow through it into a sick and broken world. It was for this reason that of all the possible words they could have used to describe the day of his death, the word they settled on was "good." Good Friday.

—Frederick Buechner



PROPERTY
Committee

The next
meeting will be

on

April 6th, 2022



Remember to bring your food items for the Salvation Army- let's bury that altar! We have until Sunday April,3rd.



Bible Quiz

As Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, crowds praised him loudly. When Pharisees told him to silence the people, what did Jesus say would shout if his followers didn't?

- A. Stones
- B. Palm branches
- C. Trees
- D. Hillsides



Answer on Pg. 6

Gratitude, all year long

It's not Thanksgiving time. But what if we made a point to practice gratitude all year long?

In her book Grateful, theologian Diana Butler Bass writes: "As human beings, we possess an intuitive awareness that we depend on others to survive. We are safer and happier when we care for each other in community, when we do things for each other. ... How we live together in and with gratitude makes all the difference in the world. Indeed, living gratefully makes the world different."



First Lutheran will be having Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter services here at First Lutheran.

Service for Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday will start at 6:00pm
Palm Sunday, and Easter Sunday Services will be held at our normal Sunday Worship time 9:30 Am.

Pastor Rachel Mithelman will be leading all Holy Week Services.

All are welcomed in this place.



THANK YOU to the people that help with our Wednesday Night Community Dinners! Wednesday Night Community Dinners are at the Methodist Church and our next meal is on the April 20th . Please come and help as many hands make for light work. Come help Jesus feed the hungry.

Church Council Meeting Review :

The church council met on
March 17th, 2022
at 6:30.

All council members were in
attendance.
Kay provided devotions and the
minutes were reviewed, and
approved.

Review of the Annual Meeting
from 1/30/22 was discussed.
A discussion about Pastor
Marcia and how people are
reacting to Pastoral supply.
People are happy with Pastor
Marcia; she is working with the
woman of Martha Circle to
figure out a way she might be
able to attend.

Easter breakfast will be April
17th. Kay is working on the
details. The breakfast will consist
of egg bake, Fruit bowl, Coffee
cake, and coffee.

O.P.E.N. was given permission
to hold a Pasta Dinner on 3-31-
22 to benefit the Ukrainian
people.

Discussion on changing the
church sign with attractive logos.

Bryan asked council to pick 5
phrases they like. Steve felt if we
changed our sign with logos that
catch people's eye.

Revised Council on duty check
list was presented, and
excepted.

1st Lutheran has been asked to
participate in the Church cross
walk on Good Friday. Corrine
will reach out to the people
arranging it and will be their
contact person. Allison made a
motion to approve the Cross
Walk involvement. Steve

seconded it. Motion passed.
Pastor Rachel will lead worship
all holy week.

Maundy Thursday, and Good
Friday will be held at 6:00 pm
and Palm Sunday, & Easter will
be at our normal worship time
at 9:30 am.

In Old Business,
Covid parodical was discussed.
The Tape between the pews on
the West side of the sanctuary
has been removed. Masks are
suggested but not required.

Treasures

Report was
given and noted
that a error
had been made regarding the
money given for Lutheran Disaster
Relief. The Issue was corrected, and
the proper amount was sent.
The calendar was reviewed, and no
changes were made.

Eric reported that he has a 2nd
meeting with Pat Foote transition
Alter care duties, we discussed dif-
ferent ways to manage the change.
Faith Formations is working on a
future event.

Service Committee discussion on
what !1st Lutheran will do to help
the Ukraine. Ideas about donating
to ELCA Disaster Fund and council
would match totals. But nothing was
made official.

The next meeting will be held April
21st.. Devotions will be provided by
Eric Jordan

A motion by Corrine to adjourn,
which was seconded by Steve,
Motion carried. Submitted by:

Secretary Kay Hesse.



First Lutheran Children and Families: start thinking about Summer Camp now!

It may still be chilly outside but lots of Summer camps are already open for registration! If your kids have interest in attending any Lutheran affiliated church camp, First Lutheran Church has the funding ability to help you out! Because of generous donations by individuals in the past, there is money designated in our youth fund to help support this type of experience for our First Lutheran youth. Camp Riverside in Story City has camps for ages from 3rd grade through 12th grade and is the location the majority of our students have attended in the past but you can also consider other Lutheran affiliated camps in Iowa, too. The process for this is simple, when you fill out a registration form for your child for camp, just mark on the form that the full cost will be paid by a church and give the name of our church within the registration form when it requests it.



Our youth have highly benefited from this experience for several years
in the past.

Please reach out to Corinne Coyle or Robyn Friedman for more
information if needed.



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

309 East Third Street North
Newton, Iowa
50208

office@newtonfirstlutheran.org

Office Hours

Monday—Friday

8:30 am—12:30 pm

Pastor's Office Hours
by appointment



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
Kids church camp 3 Pastor Mark Pries Worship Service 9:30am	4	5	6 Lenten services @ St. Andrew's	7 Dorcas 9:00 AM	8	9
<u>Palm Sunday</u> 10 Pastor Rachel Mithelman Worship Service 9:30am	11	12	13 Lois Cr. 9:30 AM	14 6:00 pm. <u>Maundy Thursday</u>	15 6:00 pm. <u>Good Friday</u>	16
<u>Easter Sunday</u> 17 Pastor Rachel Mithelman Worship Service 9:30am	18	19	20 Community Meal Martha Cr. 1:00 Pm.	21 Council Meeting 6:30 pm	22	23
24 Pastor Mark Pries Worship Service 9:30am	25	26	27	28	29	30

We will be holding Holy Week Services here at First Lutheran with
Pastor Rachel Mithelman.

309 EAST THIRD STREET NORTH
NEWTON, IOWA
50208

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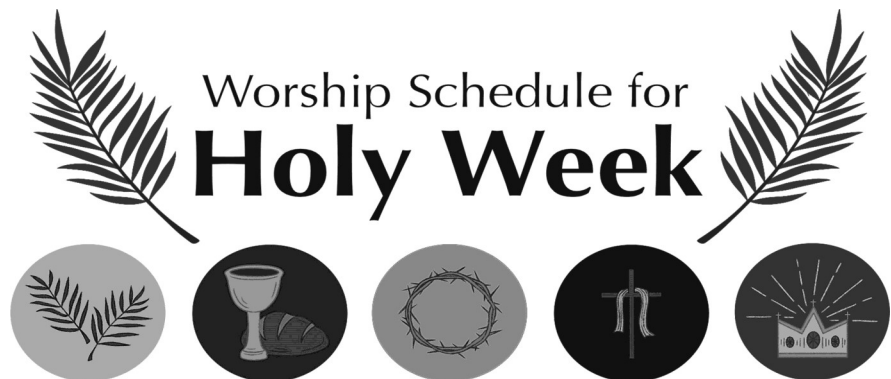
**Watch Past and Live
services !**

newtonfirstlutheran.org
&
(on Facebook at)
First Lutheran Church-
Newton

Phone: 641-792-3934

E-mail:

firstoffice@newtonfirstlutheran.org



Holy Week is April 10th— 17th

Palm Sunday: 9:30 AM

Maundy Thursday: 6:00 PM

Good Friday: 6:00 PM

Easter Sunday: 9:30 AM